WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method of creating snapshots of a data record, said

2   method comprising:

3   determining one or more changes to the data record;

4   comparing the changes to one or more rules; and

5   copying one or more fields from the data record to a

6   snapshot record in response to the comparison.

1   2.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   writing transaction data corresponding to the copying

3   to a transaction log file, wherein the

4   transaction data includes an address

5   corresponding to the snapshot record.

1   3.   The method as described in claim 2 further comprising:

2   retrieving one or more transaction records stored in

3   the transaction log file; and

4   selecting a related snapshot record corresponding to

5   each of the retrieved transaction log records.

1   4.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   including a snapshot pointer in the data record that

3   includes an first address corresponding to the

4   snapshot record; and

5   including a data record pointer in the snapshot record

6   that includes a second address corresponding to

7   the data record.

1   5.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   retrieving one or more snapshot records corresponding

3   to the data record;

4   analyzing the retrieved snapshot records; and

5   displaying a resulting analysis.

1   6.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   retrieving one or more snapshot records corresponding

3   to the data record;

4   identifying one of the retrieved snapshot records as a

5   rollback record; and

6   creating a new data record by overlaying the data

7   record with the rollback record.

1   7.   The method as described in claim 1 further comprising:

2   reading the rules from a rules data area; and

3   identifying the fields from a snapshot fields data

4   area.

1   8.   An information handling system comprising:

2   one or more processors;

3   a memory accessible by the processors;

4   a nonvolatile storage accessible by the processors;

5   one or more data records stored on the nonvolatile

6   storage; and

7   a snapshot tool for creating snapshots of a data

8   record, the snapshot tool including:

9   means for determining one or more changes to the

10   data record;

11   means for comparing the changes to one or more

12   rules; and

13   means for copying one or more fields from the

14   data record to a snapshot record in response

15   to the comparison.

1 9. The information handling system as described in claim
2   8 further comprising:
3   means for writing transaction data corresponding to
4   the copying to a transaction log file, wherein
5   the transaction data includes an address
6   corresponding to the snapshot record.

1 10. The information handling system as described in claim
2   9 further comprising:
3   means for retrieving one or more transaction records
4   stored in the transaction log file; and
5   means for selecting a related snapshot record
6   corresponding to each of the retrieved
7   transaction log records.

1 11. The information handling system as described in claim
2   8 further comprising:
3   means for including a snapshot pointer in the data
4   record that includes an first address
5   corresponding to the snapshot record; and
6   means for including a data record pointer in the
7   snapshot record that includes a second address
8   corresponding to the data record.

1 12. The information handling system as described in claim
2   8 further comprising:
3   means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4   corresponding to the data record;
5   means for analyzing the retrieved snapshot records;
6   and
7   means for displaying a resulting analysis.

1   13.   The information handling system as described in claim
2   8 further comprising:
3   means for retrieving one or more snapshot records
4   corresponding to the data record;
5   means for identifying one of the retrieved snapshot
6   records as a rollback record; and
7   means for creating a new data record by overlaying the
8   data record with the rollback record.

1   14.   The information handling system as described in claim
2   8 further comprising:
3   means for reading the rules from a rules data area;
4   and
5   means for identifying the fields from a snapshot
6   fields data area.

1   15.   A computer program product stored on a computer
2   operable medium for creating snapshots of a data
3   record, said computer program product comprising:
4   means for determining one or more changes to the data
5   record;
6   means for comparing the changes to one or more rules;
7   and
8   means for copying one or more fields from the data
9   record to a snapshot record in response to the
10   comparison.

1   16.   The computer program product as described in claim 14
2   further comprising:
3   means for writing transaction data corresponding to
4   the copying to a transaction log file, wherein

5   the transaction data includes an address

6   corresponding to the snapshot record.

1   17. The computer program product as described in claim 15

2   further comprising:

3   means for retrieving one or more transaction records

4   stored in the transaction log file; and

5   means for selecting a related snapshot record

6   corresponding to each of the retrieved

7   transaction log records.

1   18. The computer program product as described in claim 14

2   further comprising:

3   means for including a snapshot pointer in the data

4   record that includes an first address

5   corresponding to the snapshot record; and

6   means for including a data record pointer in the

7   snapshot record that includes a second address

8   corresponding to the data record.

1   19. The computer program product as described in claim 14

2   further comprising:

3   means for retrieving one or more snapshot records

4   corresponding to the data record;

5   means for analyzing the retrieved snapshot records;

6   and

7   means for displaying a resulting analysis.

1   20. The computer program product as described in claim 14

2   further comprising:

3   means for retrieving one or more snapshot records

4   corresponding to the data record;

5   means for identifying one of the retrieved snapshot

6   records as a rollback record; and

7   means for creating a new data record by overlaying the

8   data record with the rollback record.

1 21. The computer program product as described in claim 14

2   further comprising:

3   means for reading the rules from a rules data area;

4   and

5   means for identifying the fields from a snapshot

6   fields data area.

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